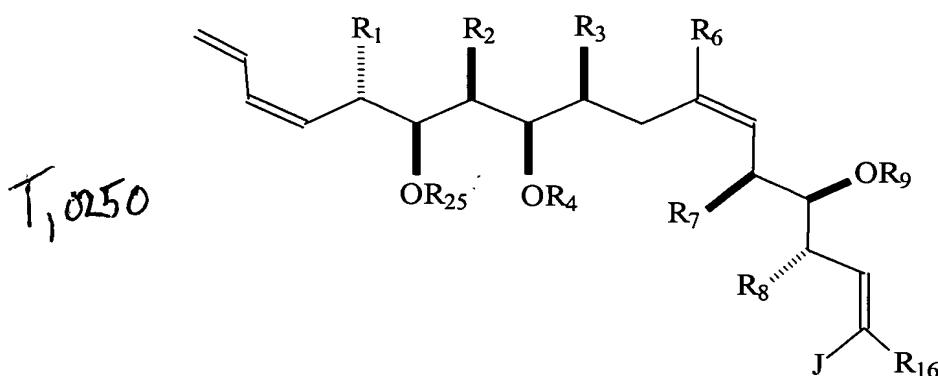


Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph starting a page 23 line 12 with the following paragraph:

--The present invention also provides a process for forming a tetraene

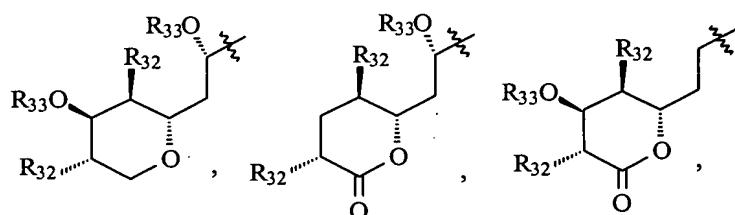
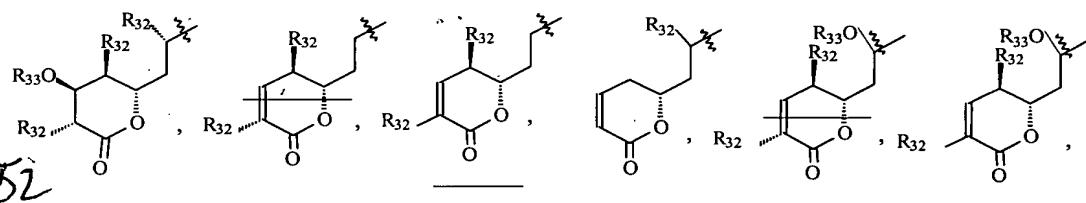
of formula:

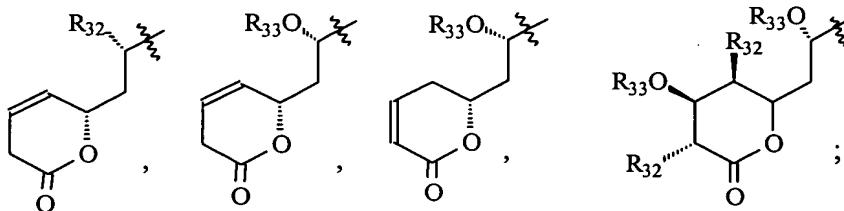


wherein:

R₁, R₂, R₇, and R₈ are independently C₁-C₁₀ alkyl;
R₃, R₆, and R₁₆ are independently selected from hydrogen and C₁-C₆ alkyl;
R₄ and R₉ are independently an acid labile hydroxyl protecting group;
R₂₅ is an acid stable hydroxyl protecting group; and

J is selected from:



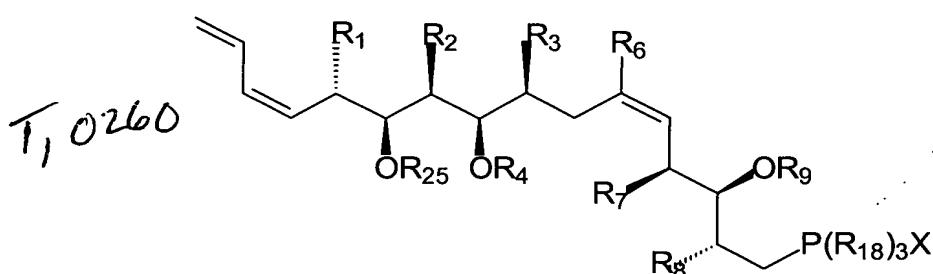


alkaryl; and alkheteroaryl;
wherein

R₃₂ is H or C₁-C₆ alkyl and R₃₃ is an acid labile hydroxyl protecting group;
the process comprising contacting a compound of the formula:

A
cont ✓
J-CHO

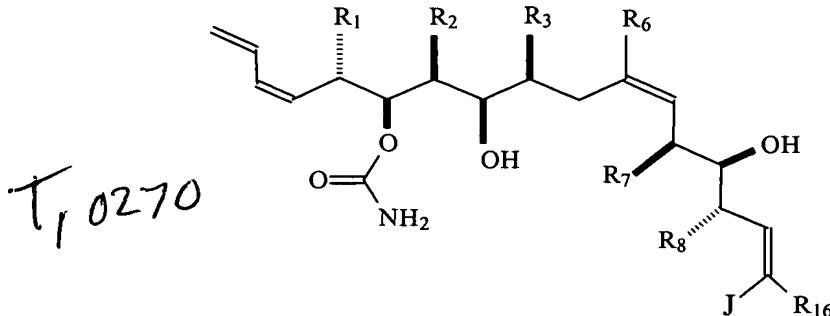
with a phosphonium salt of the formula:



wherein R₁₈ is C₆-C₁₄ aryl, in the presence of a base for a time and under conditions effective to form a tetraene.--

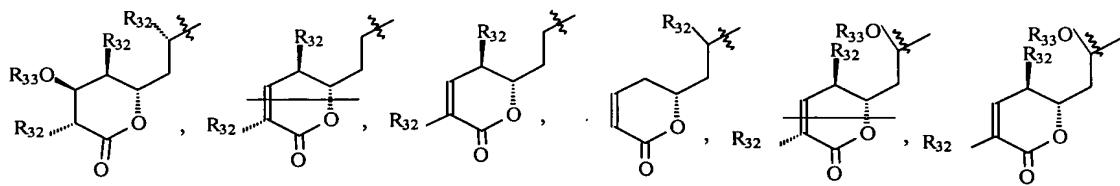
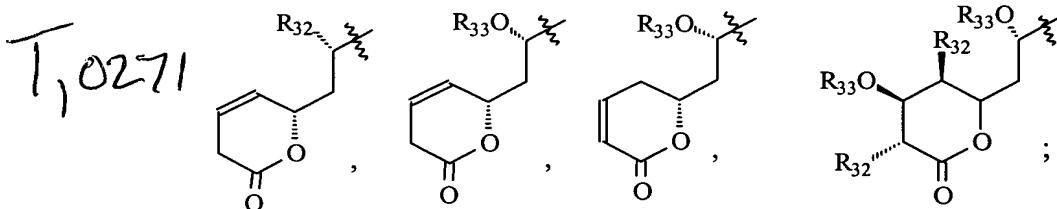
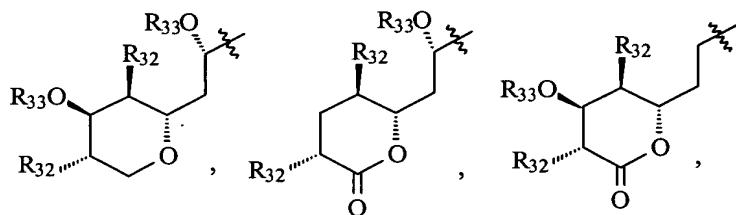
Please replace paragraph starting a page 25 line 15 with the following paragraph:

A2 ✓
--The present invention also provides a process for forming a tetraene of formula:



wherein:

R_1 , R_2 , R_7 , and R_8 are independently C_1 - C_{10} alkyl;
 R_3 , R_6 , and R_{16} are independently selected from hydrogen and C_1 - C_6 alkyl; and
 J is selected from:
 J is selected from:

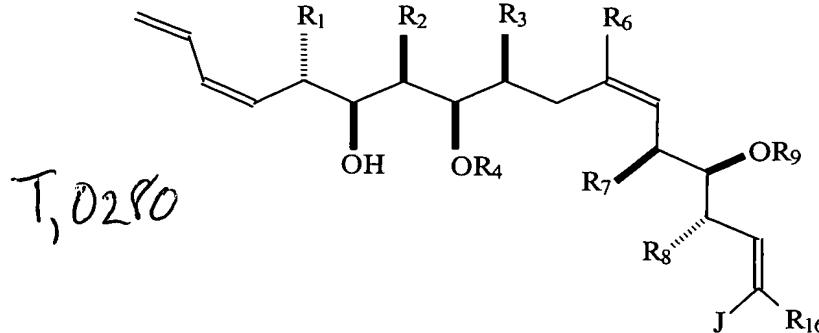


alkaryl, and alkheteroaryl;
wherein

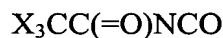
R_{32} is H or C_1 - C_6 alkyl and R_{33} is H ;
the process comprising contacting an alcohol of formula:

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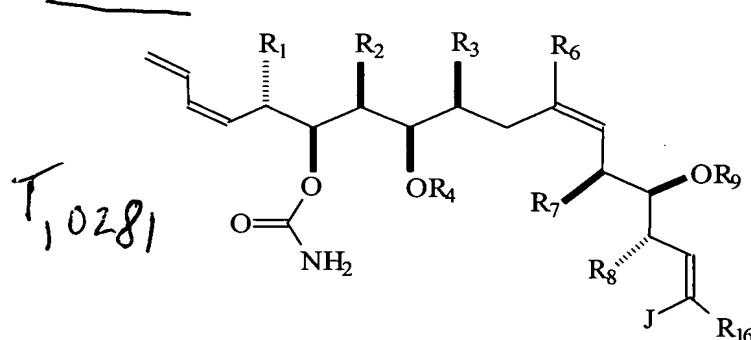
wherein R₄, R₉, and R₃₃ are acid labile hydroxyl protecting groups, with an isocyanate of the formula:



A2
CON

wherein X is a halogen, to form a carbamate intermediate;

contacting the carbamate intermediate with neutral alumina to form a carbamate of formula:

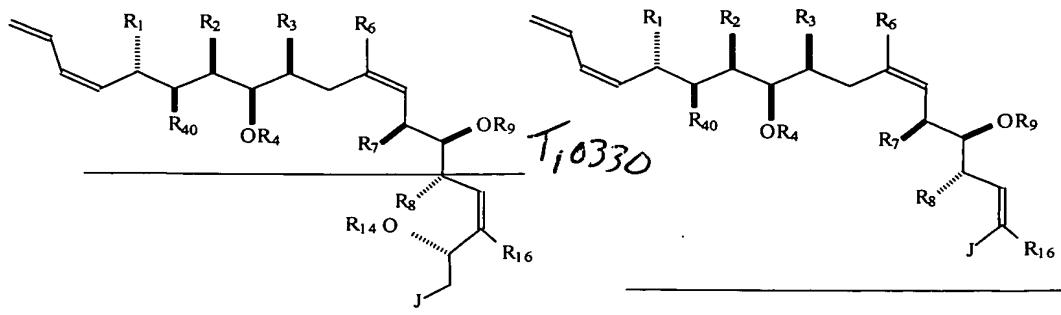


removing the acid labile hydroxyl protecting groups by contacting the carbamate with acid in a protic solvent to form the tetraene.--

A3

Please replace paragraph starting a page 32 line 6 with the following paragraph:

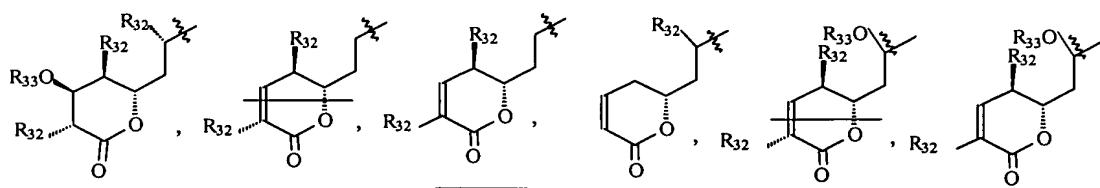
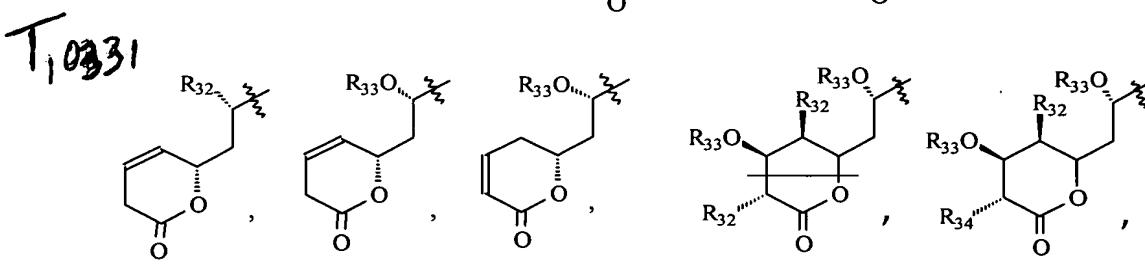
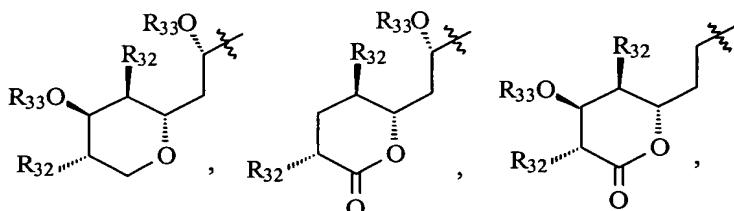
--The present invention also provides a compound of formula:



wherein:

A3
cont

R₁, R₂, R₇, and R₈ are independently C₁-C₁₀ alkyl;
R₃, R₆, and R₁₆ are independently selected from hydrogen and C₁-C₆ alkyl;
R₄, R₉, and R₁₄ are acid labile hydroxyl protecting groups;
R₄₀ is selected from OR₂₅ and OC(=O)NH₂;
R₂₅ is an acid stable protecting group; and
J is selected from:
J is selected from:



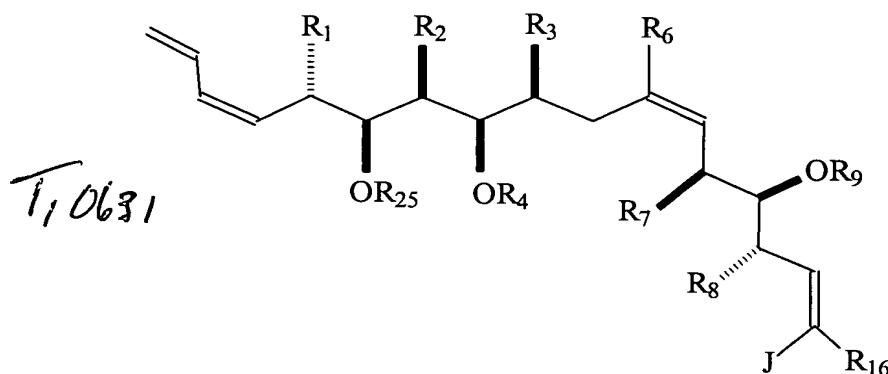
alkaryl and alk heteroaryl;

A3 ✓
CONI
wherein

R₃₂ is C₁-C₆ alkyl; and
R₃₃ is selected from H and an acid labile hydroxy protecting group; and
R₃₄ is C₁-C₆ alkyl.

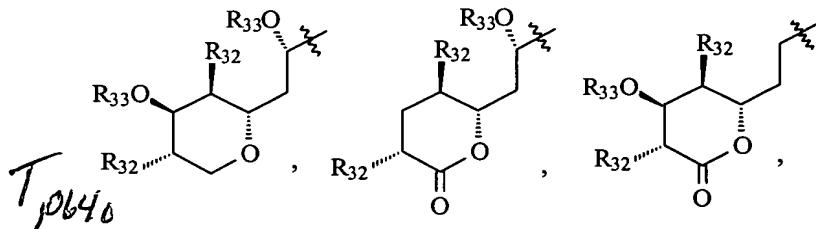
Please replace paragraph starting a page 62 line 10 with the following paragraph:

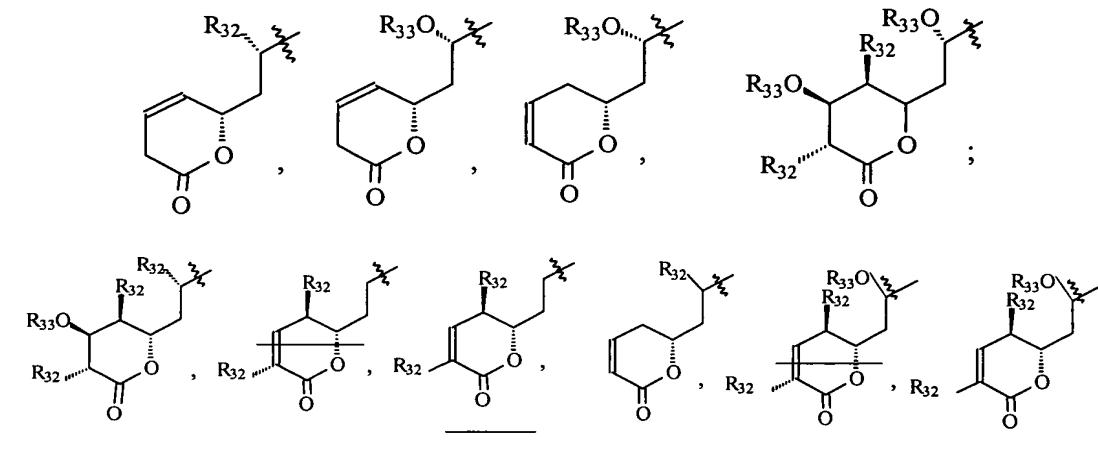
--The present invention further provides a process for forming a tetraene of formula:



wherein:

R₁, R₂, R₇, and R₈ are independently C₁-C₁₀ alkyl;
R₃, R₆, and R₁₆ are independently selected from hydrogen and C₁-C₆ alkyl;
R₄ and R₉ are independently an acid labile hydroxyl protecting group;
R₂₅ is an acid stable hydroxyl protecting group; and
J is selected from:
J is selected from:

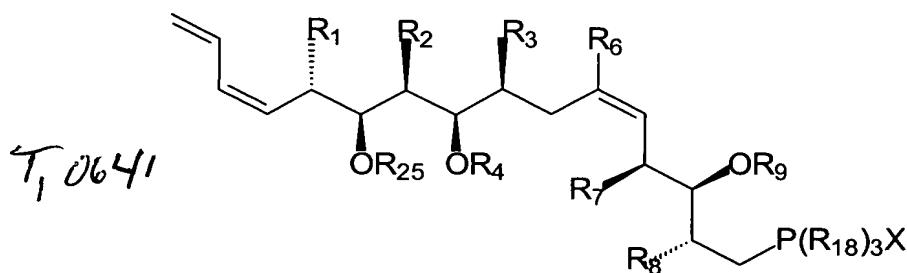




alkaryl, and alkheteroaryl;
wherein R₃₂ is H or C₁-C₆ alkyl and R₃₃ is H or an acid labile hydroxyl protecting group;
the process comprising contacting a compound of the formula:

J-CHO

with a phosphonium salt of the formula:



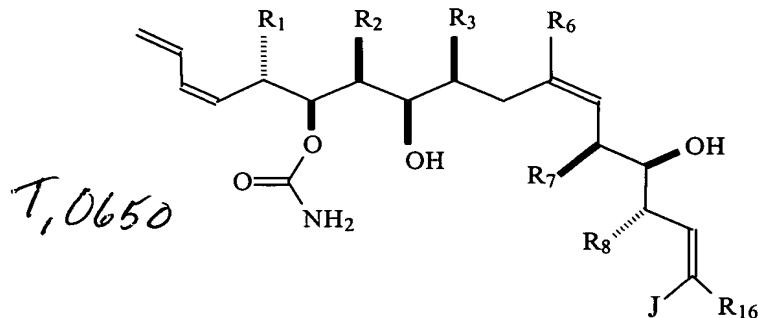
wherein R₁₈ is C₆-C₁₄ aryl, in the presence of a base for a time and under conditions effective to form the tetraene. In certain preferred embodiments, the process according to claim 11 wherein R₁, R₂, R₇, and R₈ are independently C₁-C₄ alkyl, R₃ and R₆ are independently selected from hydrogen and C₁-C₄ alkyl, and R₃₂ is C₁-C₄ alkyl.--

Please replace paragraph starting a page 64 line 7 with the following paragraph:

--The present invention also provides a process for forming a tetraene of formula:

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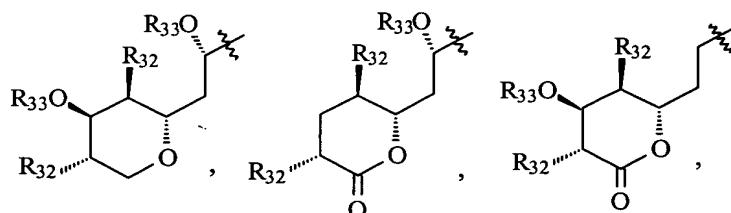


wherein:

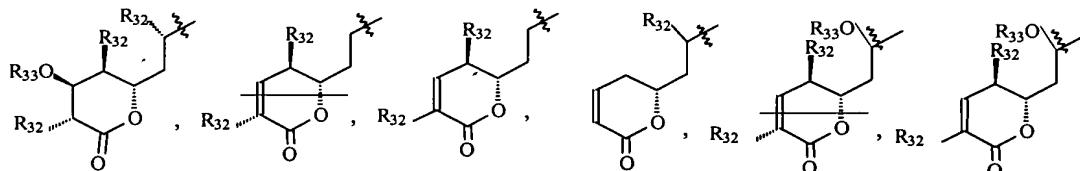
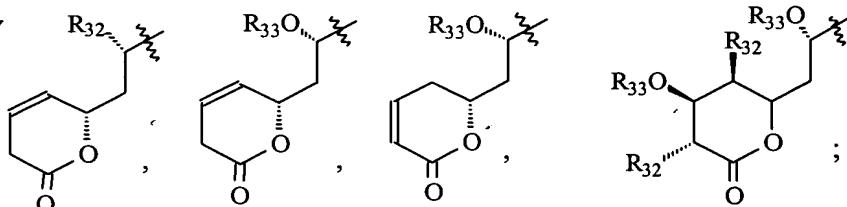
R_1 , R_2 , R_7 , and R_8 are independently C_1-C_{10} alkyl;
 R_3 , R_6 , and R_{16} are independently selected from hydrogen and C_1-C_6 alkyl; and

J is selected from:

~~J is selected from:~~



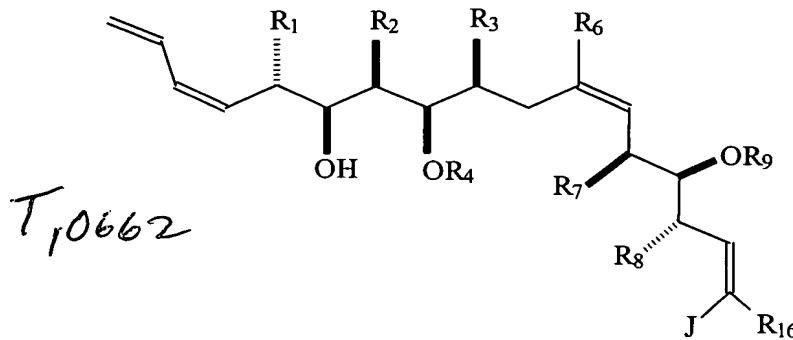
T,0651



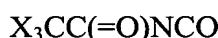
alkaryl, and alkheteroaryl;
wherein R_{32} is H or C_1-C_6 alkyl and R_{33} is H;
the process comprising contacting an alcohol of formula:

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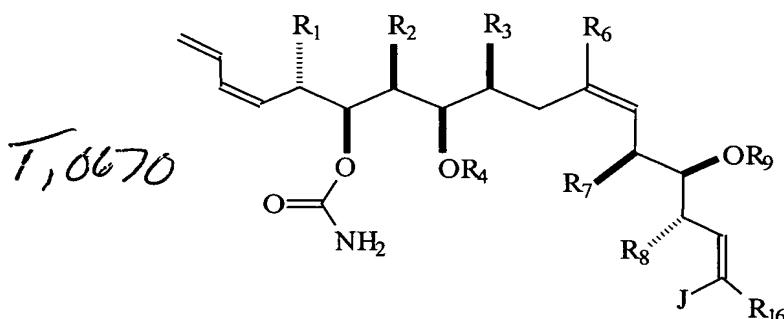
PATENT



wherein R₄, R₉, and R₃₃ are acid labile hydroxyl protecting groups, with an isocyanate of the formula:



wherein X is a halogen, to form a carbamate intermediate; contacting the carbamate intermediate with neutral alumina to form a carbamate of formula:

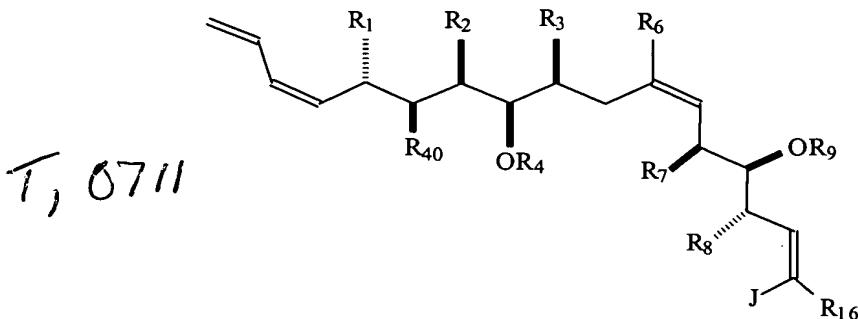


and;

removing the acid labile hydroxyl protecting groups by contacting the carbamate with acid in a protic solvent to form the tetraene.--

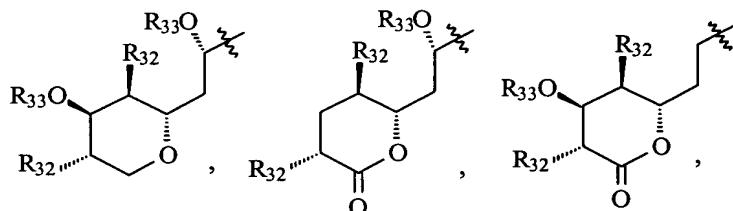
Please replace paragraph starting a page 70 line 19 with the following paragraph:

--In other embodiments, the present invention provides a compound of formula:

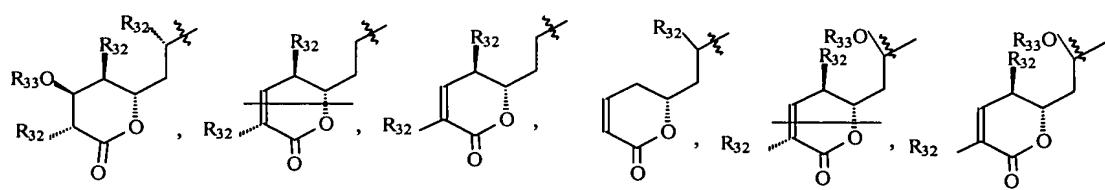
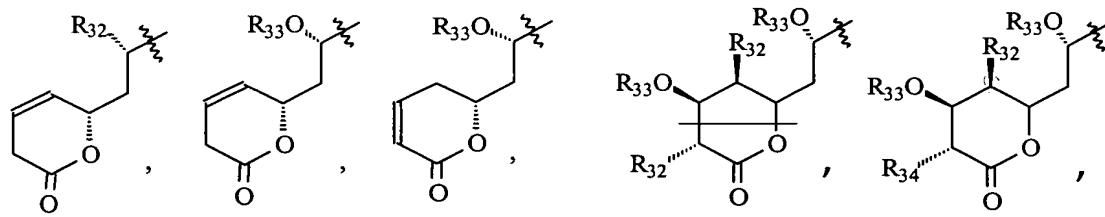


wherein:

R₁, R₂, R₇, and R₈ are independently C₁-C₁₀ alkyl;
R₃, R₆, and R₁₆ are independently selected from hydrogen and C₁-C₆ alkyl;
R₄, R₉, and R₁₄ are acid labile hydroxyl protecting groups;
R₄₀ is selected from OR₂₅ and OC(=O)NH₂;
R₂₅ is an acid stable protecting group; and
J is selected from:



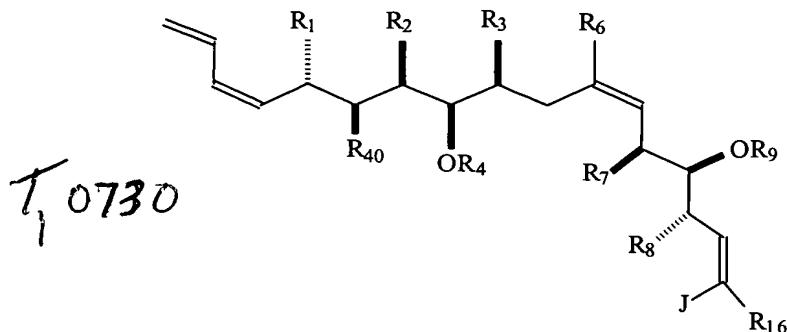
T, 0720



wherein R₃₂ is C₁-C₆ alkyl, and R₃₃ is selected from H and an acid labile hydroxyl protecting group, and R₃₄ is C₁-C₆ alkyl.--

Please replace paragraph starting a page 71 line 14 with the following paragraph:

--The present invention also provides a compound of formula:



wherein:

R₁, R₂, R₇, and R₈ are independently selected from hydrogen and C₁-C₁₀ alkyl;

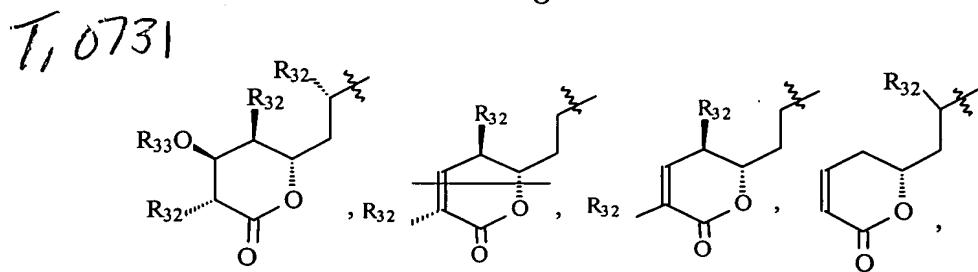
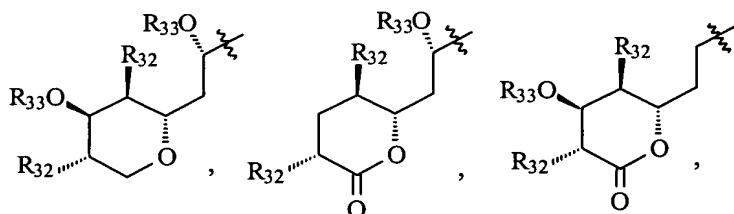
R₃, R₆, and R₁₆ are independently selected from hydrogen and C₁-C₆ alkyl;

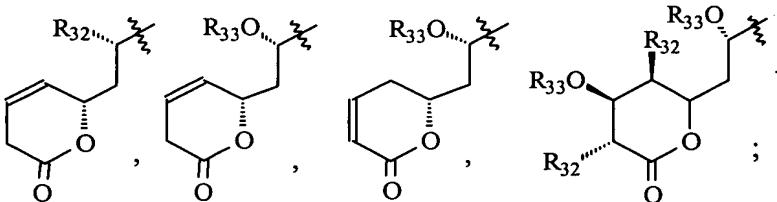
R₄ and R₉ are selected from hydrogen and acid labile hydroxyl protecting groups;

R₄₀ is selected from OR₂₅ and OC(=O)NH₂;

R₂₅ is selected from hydrogen and an oxidatively labile protecting group; and

J is selected from:





A7
cont-

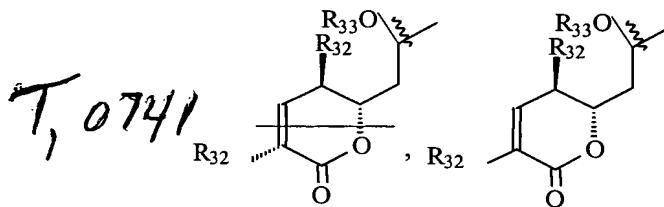
alkaryl and alk heteroaryl wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted and alk is optionally substituted with R₃₂ or OR₃₃;
wherein:

R₃₂ is selected from hydrogen and C₁-C₆ alkyl; and
R₃₃ is selected from hydrogen and an acid labile hydroxy protecting group. In certain embodiments, R⁶ is H.--

A8

Please replace paragraph starting a page 73 line 15 with the following paragraph:

--In other preferred embodiments, R₁, R₂, R₆, R₇, and R₈ are methyl; R₄ and R₉ are H; R₄₀ is -OC(O)NH₂; and J is



wherein R₃₂ is methyl and R₃₃ is H.--

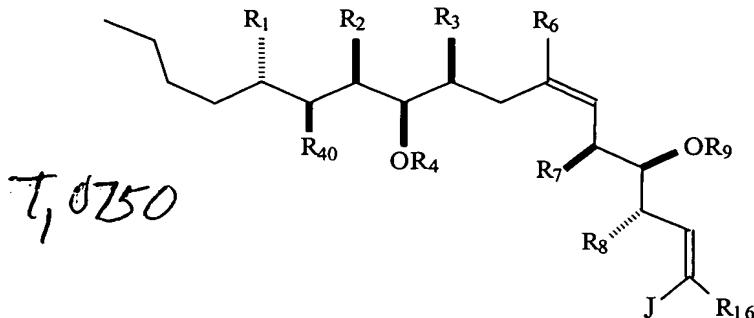
A9

Please replace paragraph starting a page 74 line 4 with the following paragraph:

--In certain preferred embodiments, the present invention provides a compound having the following formula:

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wherein:

R_1 , R_2 , R_7 , and R_8 are independently hydrogen or C_1 - C_{10} alkyl;

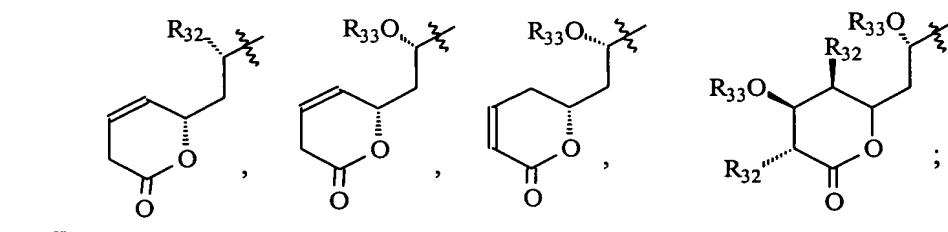
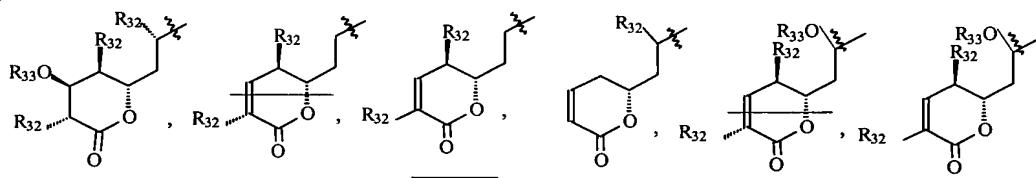
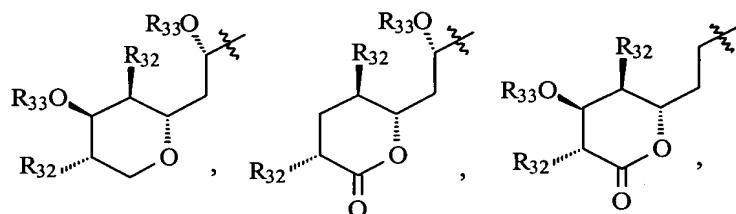
R₃, R₆, and R₁₆ are independently hydrogen or C₁-C₆ alkyl;

R_4 , and R_9 are independently hydrogen or acid labile hydroxyl

protecting groups;

R_{40} is selected from OR_{25} and $OC(=O)NH_2$;

R_{25} is hydrogen or an oxidatively labile protecting group; and J is selected from:



alkaryl and alkheteroaryl wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted and alk is optionally substituted with R_{32} or OR_{33} ; wherein

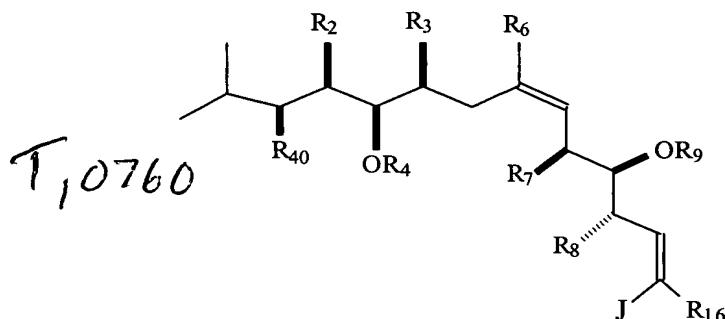
R₃₂ is hydrogen or C₁-C₆ alkyl; and

A9
Cont

R₃₃ is hydrogen or an acid labile hydroxy protecting group. In certain preferred embodiments, R₆ is H. In other embodiments, R₁, R₂, R₇, and R₈ are methyl. In other embodiments, R₄, R₉, and R₃₃ are hydrogen. In other embodiments, R₁, R₂, R₇, and R₈ are methyl; R₄, R₆, R₉, and R₃₃ are H; and R₄₀ is -OC(O)NH₂--

Please replace paragraph starting a page 75 line 13 with the following paragraph:

--In certain embodiments, the present invention provides a compounds having the formula:

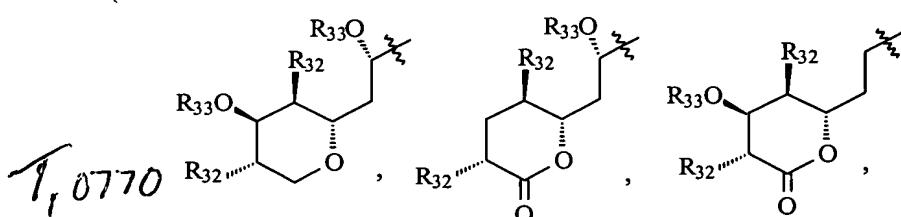


wherein

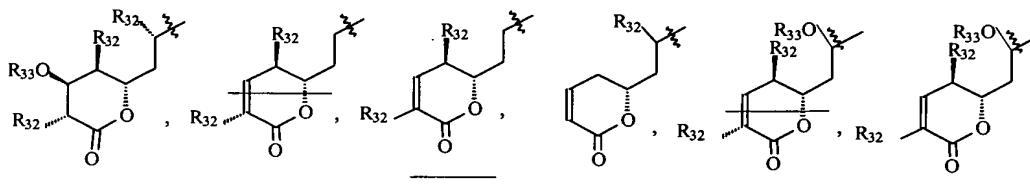
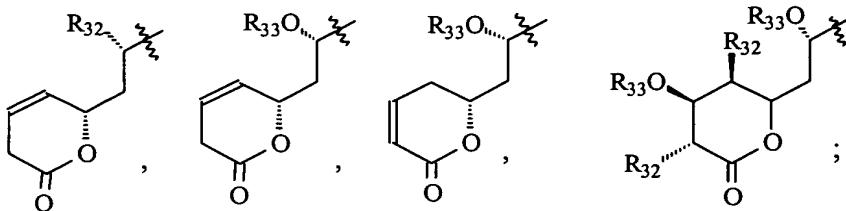
R₂, R₇, and R₈ are independently hydrogen or C₁-C₁₀ alkyl;
R₃, R₆, and R₁₆ are independently hydrogen or C₁-C₆ alkyl;
R₄, R₉, and R₃₃ are independently hydrogen or acid labile hydroxyl protecting groups;
R₄ and R₉ are independently hydrogen or acid labile protecting hydroxyl groups;

R₄₀ is selected from OR₂₅ and OC(=O)NH₂;

R₂₅ is hydrogen or an oxidatively labile protecting group; and
J is selected from:



a



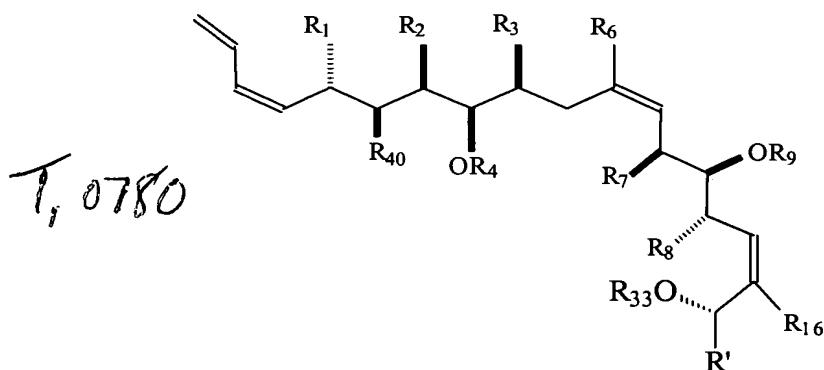
alkaryl and alkheteroaryl wherein aryl and heteroaryl are optionally substituted and alk is optionally substituted with R₃₂ or OR₃₃;
wherein

R₃₂ is hydrogen or C₁-C₆ alkyl; and

R₃₃ is hydrogen or an acid labile hydroxy protecting group.--

Please replace paragraph starting a page 76 line 17 with the following paragraph:

--In certain embodiments, the present invention provides a compound having the formula:



wherein:

R₁, R₂, R₇, and R₈ are independently hydrogen or C₁-C₁₀ alkyl;

R₃, R₆, and R₁₆ are independently hydrogen or C₁-C₆ alkyl;

R₄, R₉, and R₃₃ are independently hydrogen or acid labile hydroxyl protecting groups;

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All ✓
R₄-R₉ are independently hydrogen or acid labile protecting hydroxyl groups;

R₂₅ is hydrogen or an oxidatively labile protecting group;

R₄₀ is selected from OR₂₅ and OC(=O)NH₂; and

R' is methyl or alkyl-R"; and

R" is C₁-C₁₀ alkoxy, hydroxy, or -C(O)CH₃--